employees of Central Government and Central Public Undertakings subject to fulfilment of certain administrative requirements.

(b) and (c) The requests for posting of husband and wife at the same station are considered by competent authorities in each Ministry|Department in accordance with the above guidelines. If instances of violations of the guidelines are brought to the notice of the Department of Personnel & Training they will be taken up with the concerned Ministry|Department.

Request of Madhya Pradesh Government for allocation of funds for irrigation projects

*417. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government have approached the Central Government for allocation of funds for completion of small and medium irrigation projects in that State;

(b) if so, what are the deails in this regard;

(c) whether the said request has since been examined; and

(d) if so, what has been the outcome thereof and by when the financial assistance requested for is likely to be given to Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Protection of Medicinal plants

*418. DR. R. K. PODDAR:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Botanical Survey of India has identified about twenty medicinal plants which are facing extinction, as reported in the Financial Express of 12th June, 1986; if so, what are the details of Government's plans to protect these plants;

(b) whether the situation has improved since the initiation of measures in this regard; and

(c) whether the Botanical Survey of India has made any concrete suggestions to protect such plants; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): (a) to (c) The Botanical Survey of India is cultivating rare plants of medicinal importance in their Botanic Garden at Calcutta and Experimental Gardens located at different parts of India, in order to evolve methodologies for their propagation, multiplication, acclimatization and suitability for large scale cultivation. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Organisations under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare are also engaged in scientific propagation of medicinal plants. Trade and Commerce in endangered plants are not permitted under the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

The Government of Meghalaya State has taken action on the recommendations of the Botanical Survey of India, and declared *Nepenthes Khasiana*, habitats, being botanically, biologically and medicinally important and being over-exploited, as "Protected areas" to preserve the plants *in-situ*.

Failure of Scientific Pool Scheme in the CSIR

*419. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to press report which

appeared in the 'Indian Express' of 27th May, 1986 under the caption "CSIR Scientific Pool Scheme flawed";

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that under the Scientific Pool Scheme, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has failed to fix a pool job for one Yashpal Goyal, a post doctoral fellow, who had applied therefor on the 5th March, 1985; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The report is about the difficulty faced by Dr. Yashpal Goyal in getting placement as Pool Officer at certain institutions of his choice in Rajasthan and elsewhere, namely the Rajasthan, Jodhpur and Udaipur Universities, and the National Botanical Research Institute. None of these institutions responded favourably to the proposal of his placement. Later, the Central Arid Zone Research Institute of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research was approached and they have agreed to have him as a Pool Officer. Dr. Goyal has now been placed at this institution.

Law Commission's recommendations to repeal Section 309 of IPC

*420. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the observation made by Delhi High Court on the 29th March, 1985 regarding repeal of Section 309 IPC;

(b) whether the Law Commission had also recommended repeal of the same if so, when; and

(c) whether Government propose to repeal the said provision of the IPC, and, if so, how soon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) While refusing to permit the police to continue investigation of an offence under Section 309 IPC, the Delhi High Court, on 29-3-1985, observed as under:—

> "The continuance of Section 309 IPC is an anachronism unforthy of a humane society like ours. Medical clinics for such special misfits certainly but police and prisons never. The very idea is revolting. This concept seeks to meet the challenge of social strains of modern urban and competive economy by ruthless suppression of mere symptoms—this attempt can only result in failure. Need is for humane civilised and socially oriented and conscious penalogy. Many penal offences are the off shoots of an unjust society and socially decadent outlook of love between young people being frustrated by false consideration of caste, community or social pretentions. No wonder so long as society refuses to face this reality its coercive machinery will invoke the provision like 309 IPC which has no right to remain on the statute".

2. The Law Commission also has recommended repeal of Section 309 of Indian Penal Code. This recommendation will be kept in mind when comprehensive amendment of that Code is taken up.

Non-availability of non-Judicial Stamp Papers of the value of Rs. 2 and Rs. 5 in Delhi

†2126. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the general complaint of non-

†Previously Unstarred Question No 1225 transferred from the 4th August 1986.